Communications.

Mr. Editor,—A Cornish friend of mine, living in the *bush*, has sent me the inclosed Letter.—Will you so far oblige me, as to give it an insertion in the Chronicle. Yours, obediently,

JOHN THOMAS.

Monday Morning, 31st March, 1851.

DEAR SIR,—The copy of the Chronicle of the 6th Dec., 1850, containing the piece of which you spoke, was handed to me yesterday, please accept my acknowledgements for it.

I have often regretted my inability to profit by Mr. Wishart's lectures, as I have conceived a high opinion of his talents, from perusing the synoptic references occasionally given in the "Morning News." I confess, however, under any circumstances, I should have been unprepared to hear the Rev. Institutor utter the *dictum* which excited the patriotic ire of your Cornish friend. It seems scarcely possible that the unqualified assertion quoted by the writer could have emanated from Mr. W., a gentleman evidently well versed in the history and politics of his Country. However, as we may not, in this case, ascribe the assertion to the conscious hypocrisy of a literary panderer, we first laugh at the carelessness, to say no worse, that could perpetrate such a blunder, and consign it to the same category of literary curiosities as the epigraph of poor old "Dolly Jeffrey's," of Paul, and the penny-a-line marvels of the Wrecker's of Breage. I suppose the remark originated under the comparative estimate of the intellect of the Saxon and Celtic races. Being a mongrel myself, I have no prejudice in this matter; but I must say that my little travel and experience have somewhat fortified me against receiving too hastily the deductions of modern Physiologists. The beneficent progress of the present age has practically swept from British memory the radical domination which once held the Celt in sullen thrall, and exposed the Saxon to the imputation of cunning, if not of cowardice. It may safely be averred that many descendants of EDWARD CONFESSOR deeply regret this frequent iteration of "Anglo Saxon" in the ears of their fellow subjects, whose patronymics bespeak a diversity of origin. I think it must be allowed, in the learned gentleman's own country, to be a difficult matter to fix the decimals as to the relative gravity and quality of the furniture contained within the rival *Sincipita*, so often ostentatiously contrasted.

The following names, associated with the rights of Caledonia to universal celebrity, give the antiquarian but little trouble to distinguish:—Ossian, Denis Scotus, Buchanan, Napier, (Lennox,) of Michiston, Crichton, Wallace, Keill, Abercrombie, Scott, Campb'll, Robrtson, M'Intosh and McAuley:—many others could be adduced.

As to Wales,—without referring to the host of heroes both in literature and arms, born in the Principality, I should mention two memorable examples of "*energy*" in Welsh blood, sufficient to stamp the future destinies of every race in Great Britain and Ireland,—I mean TUDOR 1st, the anti-feudal King of England, and WILLIAMS, (Cromwell,) the Protector of Protestant Europe.

With regard to Cornwall, if Mr. Wishart wanted to establish the hypothesis that the commixture of the two races is necessary for the highest development of physical and intellectual enterprise, he has been singularly unhappy in intimating that the inhabitants of the Ducal County are now suffering under the curse of mental infirmity, in consequence of not adopting the means of amelioration recommended by our therapeutic Philosophers.—The basis of the old Dantonian race was undoubtedly CELTIC; but the amalgamation with the TEUTONIC families has as where been more perfect than in Cornwall and Devon.

What we our-elves are accustomed to receive as guidances of ancient Cornish descent, are not always to be relied on. The prefixed Bo, Tre, Pol, Ros, Car, and Pen were, in numerous instances, assumed by FRANKLINS, who purchased the Manors and Bartons, and thus perpetuated in their families the characteristic marks of the former dignants of peculiar localities. On the other hand, many chiefs of Cornish Houses, or others denominated from some one of their Welsh Fees, disliking the rough aspirates of their native dialect, dropped the adjective prefixed, and translated the substantive parts of their names into Latin, Norman, French, English, and (Temp. Hen. VIII.) even Greek synonyms, anglicised, of course, through the medium of a common alphabet. This practice tends, in some measure, to account for the anomaly of the different spellations by which members of the same Cornish Sept were known in distant parts of England.—Such a culpable negligence of uniformity, however, led Heralds and antiquarians into many, and often ridiculous mistakes, which created much confusion in after years. Hence Cornwall has not been credited with her due share of the illustious individuals who added to the fame of England, and contributed to the building up of the British Constitution. I have not a copy of LYSON, nor, indeed, a single treatise on the subjects lightly touched in the preceding lines. Perhaps, had I seen your friend, I might have recollected some half a dozen names not unworthy of remembrance. His list runs thus:—Humphrey Davy, Dr. Wolcot, (P. Pindar,) Opie, Wm. Pitt, Gurney, Polwheele, Davies Giddy, (Gilbert,) Exmouth, Samuel Drew, Dr. Carey, Couch, Foote, Incledon, Trelawnies, and Buckingham.—I will just sprinkle a few in passing, *currente calamo*:—Panreths, (or Latymers, of Iselhamstead, &c., &c.,) Ministers of the EDWARDS, Oldcastle, Cheyneys, (De Holland,) Carminow, Penbruges, (Chandois,) Lord Treasurer Cardinham, Courtneys and Bullers of Trethurfe, Wm. Pendred, (or Latymer,) of Oxford, Coryton, Killigrew, Carew, the Norbone family, Wm. Noy, (the nepos of the Buryan branch, and *quasi pater* of Sir Matthew Hale,) the St. German family, (from which Gibralter Elliott descended,) Arundel, ("the only MAN in the Peloponesus," according to the Sultan,) Admiral Sir C. Penrose, Sydney Godolphin, Dean Prideaux, Beville and other Grenvilles, Admiral Boscowen, Dr. Borlase, Wallis, Trevithick, Henry Martyr, Hussey Vivian, Treffry, &c., &c., &c.; many at the present day, as, Sir C. Lemon, in science, Sir W. Molesworth, in politics, and W. Ranliegh Gilbert, in arms, &c.

To wind up this rather laughable story, one may safely conclude—that the County which is frequently called upon to furnish Cylinders, &c., so large that no other part of the world has hitherto been prepared to supply the like,—the County which returns a fair average profit on the immense capital invested in her Mines,—Mines demanding the expenditure of 13,000 lbs. of Gunpowder, and wood equal to the produce of 140 square miles of Norwegian forest annually,—the County that has the largest Steam Engines in the world in common use,—the County which can and does present the energy of mind and matter requisite for their manufacture and successful application to the stupendous undertakings witnessed throughout the length and breadth of its rocky area,—the County, in short, whose natives are proverbially energetic, and physically and intellectually powerful,—may not, after all, be irretrievably disgraced by the *green* absurdity said to have been promulgated from the rostrum of the Mechanics' Institute.

Methinks I hear the stern shade of Massachusetts PETERELL challenge the columniator of old Cornubia, and GEORGE OF MOUNT VERNON sigh with the "*Rose of Ruby*," but Washington Irving's Cornish mother can only smile at her son's affective dietch:—

I much Van Winkle's ovt, facetious still,
Might come from error, when on Chipman's Hill."

Dear Sir, your faithfully,

EDWIN PETERELL.

[FOR THE CHRONICLE.]

EDUCATION.

LETTER I.

Having long regretted to see so many children in the streets of this now populous City, I determined long since to use my best endeavours to argouse public attention, as well as the feelings and affections of parents, to a careful consideration of this important subject, as I am convinced that children learn more evil practices, and wicked and obscene words during the first five or six years of their existence, than can be eradicated in the same number of years by the most careful moral training, and which, in many instances, can never be totally eradicated, but exercise an evil influence over many otherwise promising children, for the remainder of their existence, making some of the most talented youths in large cities a curse to their parents, and a nuisance to society, besides ultimately ruining their prosperity in this world and their happiness in the next. I need not give particular instances, as I would not either willingly give pain or cause offence—my object is simply to obviate the evil,—and the question how arises, how can this be done? I hope every one of my readers will consider the matter, and be ready on some future occasion to give their opinions on the subject—my own idea is, that nothing can tend so effectually to remedy the evil as the establishment of Infant Schools; many villages in Europe, not containing one-tenth of the population of St. John, have established and supported Infant Schools.—Having made these few brief preliminary remarks, I will now proceed to lay before you some of the leading Principles of Infant Education.

1. As the feelings and affections of human nature, commonly termed the dispositions, furnish the impulses according to their direction, to virtue or vice, it is most important to address education directly to those feelings, as well as to the intellectual faculties.

2. The dispositions being capable of direction either to good or evil, from the very commencement of their manifestations, and being then at their greatest degree of pliability, it is of the utmost importance that the education of the dispositions should commence as nearly as possible with the commencement of their manifestations.

3. Mere precept will not establish, either in infancy or at any other period of life, those moral habits which flow from well regulated dispositions. Example, though it may be a good auxiliary, is apt to operate transiently, leaving the mind which has been partially swayed by it liable to the influence of example in any other direction. Exercise, confirmed into habit by constant exercise, is the true and only effectual means of establishing the virtuous character, as far as it is possible to be established by human means; and how is this to be carried into practice? That it may, to a certain extent, be carried into effect in families, is true; but, as most of families are situated, it can be so but in very rare instances, the general result of home training is the almost entire neglect of moral culture at the time when it is most valuable, and the acquisition of every bad habit from more neglected companions; it is therefore necessary that children should be placed, as early as convenient, under the influence of a system, which, without imposing any painful restraint or burden, will ensure their being properly trained: their being so collected is incidentally advantageous, inasmuch as it is only in a state of society that they can receive much of that culture of the dispositions which is necessarily collected into a place properly fitted up for the purpose, and under the eye of well trained and experienced teachers; a considerable number of infants form a community of equals, or a larger sort of family, in which the selfish feelings can be regulated, and the social feelings strengthened and improved; in which the practice of cleanliness, delicacy, refinement, good temper, gentleness, kindness, honesty, justice, and truth, may be rendered habitual—thus confirming good tendencies in the mind, and leading, to virtue in the conduct, at the same time that the body is strengthened and developed by a judicious use of air and exercise.

4. It is presumed that the best preparation may be thus made for the reception of Christianity.—As most suited for the infant mind, the earliest lessons should chiefly refer to real objects, of which the properties and uses should be explained, so as to impart to the infant mind many new and useful ideas; and for this purpose the objects themselves, or lively pictures of them, should, if possible, be presented; but care should be taken not to overload the infant mind by abstract or scientific reasoning.

MENTOR.

(To be Continued.)

LITERATURE AND THE JESUITS OF NAPLES.

(From the Naples correspondence of the Athenæum.)

In pursuance of my plan of keeping you *au courant* of what is passing in this part of the world in all that regards literature, it will not be uninteresting, I believe, to record the vigorous efforts of the Jesuitical party to exclude the literature of France and England from Naples, and, indeed, Italy. The student of European letters here has long fed on works which, owing to the stringent laws of the press, could be obtained only from a foreign press. But, previous to the late revolutionary movements, the long repose of the Peninsular Governments had induced a sense of security and an indifference which were wont to wink at the introduction of many books registered in the fatal "Index."—Under such a state of things, the students' library was gradually enlarged and enriched with the current literature of the day. The Bourbon Public Library added a few works to the existing collection, and the Royal Typographical Library of Naples was little less active. An immense amount of modern literature found its way into private collections. Every great European work had its quota of subscribers; and French, English, and German periodicals were regularly delivered, on the spur of a little bribery, to the subscribers. An important change has taken place. The office of revision in Naples is positively crowded with literary prisoners, and the subscribers to "serials" ask in vain for their property. Thousands of volumes are under lock and key; more, indeed, than the censors could read in a century, admitting the supposition that they were acquainted with the language in which these are written. The booksellers are desperate. I visited one yesterday, to procure a sight of the "Index." "I have none, sir," was the reply to my demand; "besides, it is of no use, almost every book is in Index," and those which are not are as though they were. Everything depends on the arbitrary will of an ignorant censor, *siamo perduti, siamo morti.* I stand here daily, I know not why. I believe from habit, or just to answer questions, for I sell nothing." "Do you fear my visiting you?" I asked. "I fear everything," was the reply; *ma non ci attristiamo, non ci perdiamo più.* A German bookseller told me the other day that he could carry on his business only by favour of the Prussian Ambassador, who had allowed a few books to be addressed to himself. With great difficulty, too, it is that our public English Library is supplied with periodicals. Another bookseller assured me that he had hundreds of volumes in Purgatory, without hope, by either indulgence, money, or prayer, of ever obtaining them. A fourth complains of the confiscation of twenty copies of Macaulay's "History of England," (Leipsic edition), which is much in demand. And here I must observe, that no history of England ever received so much homage from the Italian mind as Macaulay's narrative. It is considered here by thinking men as a perfect text-book for the great struggle for popular freedom. Speaking of the work, a few days since, with an eminent Italian writer, that gentleman observed, "I now, for the first time, comprehend how the people of England obtained that exquisite balance of royal and popular rule which has made their country the greatest nation on the earth; and I am indebted to Macaulay for this knowledge." "Ah, sir," continued the Italian, "the ocean, which bears no traces of tyrant's will, must gladden as it breaks on the shores of your happy land, for there is unconquered waters of the deep bind the island of freedom. Our struggle will be ever thwarted by our continental position." Returning to the war on books, I may add, that the excellent chaplain of the British Ambassy, who has formed a small library for the use of invalid British soldiers, can now obtain books only through the English Minister. Neither the object nor the character of the works has any weight with the Jesuit party. A book is as much dreaded by the advisers of the Vatican as if it were a child of the devil.—Diodati's Italian Bible is a special object of fear. [illegible] of the sacred volume is the very one allowed in the part of the world, and that on the condition of the individual having a special permission. Speaking with a priest a few days since, I said to him—"If you studied the Scriptures, what Italian Bible would you use?" He replied, "Diodati's edition most certainly." "Then, then if you think that is the best and most correct, why would you not give it to the people?" "We do not hold," said he, "that we have any right of private interpretation; we can only read the Scriptures by the lamp of the Church." I mention these facts, by the way, because I see that it is sometimes contended in England that the Bible is not a sealed book in the Roman Catholic Church. I maintain that the Bible is here a sealed book, perfectly dead, stone dead, to the great masses, whilst the priest himself must obtain a permission to read the Scriptures as they are written by the inspired writers.

ROMAN BANDITTI.

The following letter (from the *Daily News*) describes a most daring act:—

ROME, JAN. 31.—I have to-day to relate a most singular and almost incredible fact, the authenticity of which, however, is established by the most incontestible evidence, including that of official reports.

On the 25th of this month, the theatrical corporation at Forlini Popoli was playing the *Death of Cæsar*. Forlini-Popoli is a small town of about 4,000 inhabitants, inclosed by a high wall, entered by two gates, and scarcely three miles from the town of Forli, of which it is a kind of suburb. By eight in the evening, the hour when the theatres open in Italy, all movements have disappeared from the streets, windows are closed, and the inhabitants have retired to their homes, the coffee houses or theatres. This absence of activity in the streets, which every one remarks at Rome, is still more complete in small towns. It may be thus understood how, at Forlini-Popoli, and particularly on an evening when the theatre was open, the streets should be so deserted as to make possible the occurrence now to be related.

The first act of the piece had terminated, and the curtain had just fallen, when suddenly it rose and disclosed—instead of the actors, who had disappeared—ten brigands of the band *del Passatore*, who, armed with muskets and carbines levelled so as to command the entire range of the pit and boxes. At the same moment another party, consisting of thirty brigands, made their appearance on the floor of the house, the issues of which were guarded, and, armed with sabres and pistols, menaced the spectators. A moment of stupor, during which no one dared move, elapsed, when the chief of the brigands advanced to the foot lights, and, exhibiting the keys of the two gates of the town,—"Gentlemen, you see by these that you are entirely in our power; any resistance on your part would lead to disasters which I would be the first to deplore, but which it depends upon you to avert. Listen, then, to what I have to say. I am about to call out the names of several among you; as I pronounce a name, let him who hears it step forth from his box and repair to his house, in company with one or two of my friends, who will assist him to bring hither all his hoards, and that without defrauding us to a porpetto." This said, the orator displayed a paper, and commenced reading the fatal roll. Submission was inevitable.

Some time was of course required for this operation, which did not terminate before a quarter to 12. It was probably to shorten the agony of the pit and boxes that two brigands went from spectator to spectator, collecting baffuls of watches, purses, chains, rings, and even umbrellas. When the harvest was gathered, and the booty had been heaped up on the stage, the brigands allowed the curtain to fall, and quietly withdrew, carrying all with them. The money thus obtained amounted to 7,000 Roman piastres, or about 40,000 francs, and the bijoux, objects of art, &c., at double that sum.

The next day an Austrian detachment set out in pursuit of the band, which probably had dispersed by that time in the mountains or passed the Tuscan frontier. Their number is supposed to have been about three or four hundred. It is probable that they were in league with some of the inhabitants. However this may be, private houses and public treasuries all have been plundered with the exception of the Monte de Pietà, the fastening of which resisted all the attempts made to break it.

THE LEGISLATURE.

SATURDAY, April 5th.

PROVINCIAL LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The House resolved into Committee of Supply, when Mr. Steves, as Chairman of the Committee on Public Accounts, moved that there be granted to the Commissioners of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum the sum of £1850 for the current year.

Mr. HARRINGTON said this was a very extensive establishment, and the sum asked for was a large one; consequently he would like to hear some explanations from the Select Committee.—He had heard that the Superintendent was a very good man, and if capable of filling the situation properly, he did not think the salary of £250 a year was too high provided that was all he received. He believed, however, that he lived in the building free of rent, was provided with fuel at the public expense, and that in last year's accounts two hundred pounds was charged for furniture for the Superintendant's rooms, some of it of a very expensive nature. He understood there were about one hundred inmates in the Asylum at present, and the place was so crowded that the Commissioners were asking for an additional building. Many of the inmates, however, were from Nova Scotia, and had no claim whatever upon this Province except the common claim of humanity. He wished to hear the Committee explain.

Mr. Steves read from the Journals of the 27th March the following Report from the Committee on Public Accounts:—

"The Committee on Public Accounts beg leave to Report—

"That they have had under their consideration the Accounts and Reports of the Commissioners of the Lunatic Asylum: They find the average number of Patients at the Institution during the past year was ninety five, and the expenditure for the year amounted to £2,496, 13s., made up in the following manner, viz:—

Food,	£887 19 2
Clothing,	98 2 4
Salaries,	647 0 0
Wages,	30 6 4
Fuel,	106 2 6
Buildings,	315 14 5
Furniture, &c.,	206 1 0
Expenses of Grounds,	164 18 9
Miscellaneous,	41 8 8
	£2,496 13 0

"After deducting the sum of £115 5 8, being the amount received from paying Patients, which your Committee consider a very small sum under the circumstances, arising from that source, there appears to be the sum of £2,380 7 4 as the net expences of the Establishment for the past year; and the Commissioners ask for £2,400 for the expences of the Establishment the present year: Your Committee find that the sums paid as Salaries to Officers in 1849, amounted to £591, and that the Officers paid in 1850, as charged in the Accounts, amount to £677 6 4, for which increase there is no reason given, neither can your Committee understand why it was made.

"The sum of £207 1s. has been charged for Furniture, which appears to your Committee to be large; and it would appear by the Accounts that some of the Furniture is of an expensive description, it is however presumed that no further expenditure will be necessary for that purpose.

"A comparatively small amount will be required for Buildings; your Committee therefore viewing this, although a very important Establishment, has as yet been a very expensive one, and unless the most rigid economy is pursued by the Officers in charge, it will continue to be so: Your Committee are therefore of opinion, that the sum of £1,850 be granted to meet the necessary expenses of the Establishment for the current year.

"W. R. STEVES,
W. CHAPP,
S. I. TILLEY,
J. W. WILLISTON,
R. D. CUTLER,
J. MONTGOMERY,
W. J. RITCHIE,
W. SCOULLAR,
B. R. FITZGERALD.

Mr. Steves continued, stating that the Committee did consider the sum of £207 an extraordinary charge, especially as some of the articles were of that general nature that it was impossible for the Committee to say the furniture was not wanted.—The accounts did not specify whether the furniture was for the Doctor's rooms or the public convenience. They supposed, however, that no charges for furniture are likely to recur. The Committee were in the same dilemma with regard to the annual increase of salaries. They had increased very much from 1848 to 1849, and from 1849 to 1850 increased £96. Why they were thus increased the Committee had no means of ascertaining; but they had brought it under the notice of the House, and stated that no reasons were given for the increase. What could they do more? The Committee in their estimate for the present year, had set apart but £50 for buildings, and that sum was for the erection of a barn. The Commissioners had asked for £2,400 for the current year.—This the Committee felt to be too large, and had recommended £1850. They had made up their estimate thus: Food £900; Clothing £100; Fuel £100; Salaries and wages £650; leaving £100 for buildings and incidental expenses.

Mr. RITCHIE had heard a great deal about this establishment, but knew not how much of it was true. Dr. Waddell received a salary of £250 a year, but it was said that he occupied nearly half of the building; the Province had paid £207 for his furniture in one year; the Province found him in fuel, paid his servants wages, and he also kept a horse at the public expense. He (Mr. R.) knew nothing of Mr. Waddell's ability; he might be a very clever man; but if public rumour was true he enjoyed the best situation in the Province,—the Judges were fools to him. He had made enquiries of the Government about this establishment, but could get no answer. He considered it their duty to investigate any charges that might be made, and he hoped they would do so during the recess, and be prepared to satisfy the House next Session.

Captain ROBINSON considered the selecting of a Superintendent from Nova Scotia a great slight to the medical men of this Province, and that Dr. Waddell had one of the best situations in the Province. He did not believe it was ever contemplated by the Legislature that he should have a salary of £250, and in addition thereto be supplied—and his family too—with his House room, furniture, food, servants' wages, and the keeping of a horse.

Mr. TILLEY described Dr. Waddell as an excellent man who discharged his duties faithfully. He did not think it right for hon. members to get up in their places and attack a man merely upon public rumour. With regard to the furniture, although some of it was composed of mahogany it was not of an expensive kind. For instance, there was a mahogany dining table at £6; he did not consider that extravagant. The only article he considered extravagant was a bedstead at £11.

Mr. NERDHAM said hon. members might think a horse was necessary for the Doctor to ride from Ward to Ward to visit his patients, (Laughter) but that was not so. He could inform them, however, what the horse was required for; it was to convey the learned Doctor into the city nearly every day, and sometimes twice a day, where he spent much of his time when he ought to be at the Asylum.—He mentioned this now in order that he might take the hint and stay at home more. The Doctor and his servants occupied *thirteen* rooms in the Asylum, five in front on the ground floor and four in the rear, and four up-stairs. While this was the case, the poor creatures under his care were huddled together in one end of the building, the men all in one room down stairs, the females all the room overhead, with the exception of the more violent of them, who were crammed into the Lodge, about fifty in a place only calculated to accommodate twenty. There was plenty of room if the Superintendant would content himself in reasonable space and place some of the inmates in other rooms. He hoped the whole concern would be submitted to investigation.

Mr. JOHNSON thought it was highly improper first to go abroad to select a Superintendant, and then to allow him such monstrous perquisite over and above his salary.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL said hon. members should not blame the Government in this matter. The whole control of the Asylum was vested in the Commissioners. It was they who had selected Dr. Waddell, and had managed the affair down to the present time. If an investigation was required it was competent for the House to move for it in another manner. He hoped the grant would pass without opposition.

Hon. Mr. MONTGOMERY had visited the Asylum last summer. He found some of the rooms very much crowded, and at the same time there were several large rooms empty. He asked Dr. Waddell why he did not place some of the inmates in those rooms. The Doctor replied that it would be a pity and a sin, after the expense the Province had been put to in furnishing up those rooms in handsome style, to place common patients in them.

Some remarks were made by Messrs. Speakes, Thomson, Gilbert, Cutler and Williston, when

Mr. TILLEY again arose, denying a statement that had been made to the effect that Dr. Waddell's salary was higher than that formerly paid to Dr. Peters. Dr. P. was a most efficient officer, and the last year he was employed he received a salary of £250, and £50 additional for laying out the grounds. He denied that Dr. Waddell was in the city, or spent much time there, as represented by his hon. colleague. As to the Lodge being too full, he would explain. The Lodge was erected that the more violent of the patients might be kept separate from the others, and at a distance, so that they might not disturb the others with their noises. He was sorry that, from the state of our finances, the Select Committee were unable to recommend a grant to erect another Lodge, which was much wanted. As regards the rooms mentioned by the hon. member for Restigouche, the case was thus: When the Asylum was built, it was supposed that a certain number of paying patients would be sent there, and a set of furniture were fitted up especially for their accommodation. It appeared, that the small sum of £115 was all that was received last year from this class of patients, and he must express his astonishment that several patients belonging to families well able to support them had been sent there as paupers, & placed at the public expense. The rooms to which he had referred were not fit for violent persons; they would break the windows and get out. This was a question for the consideration of the Legislature whether these rooms shall be furnished with iron gratings, &c., and made fit for the reception of dangerous patients. At present the Superintendant had their energies to be exercised in preventing a release, and rescue that delightful portion of this township provided from its present state of security.

Mr. NEEDHAM reiterated his assertions.

Mr. HARRINGTON considered Dr. Waddell's salary and perquisites was worth about £600 a year. That was too much, and he would move that the House grant £1700 for the current year, the £150 to be deducted from the Superintendant's salary.

Hon. SECRETARY hoped nothing of the kind would be done. It was difficult for Government to procure proper persons to act as Commissioners, and such a reduction would probably cause the resignation of the present Commissioners. Again, supposing the sum of £1700 exhausted before the expiration of the year, and the Government unauthorised to make any advance, the establishment must come to a stand still, and the inmates be sent adrift.

Mr. HARRINGTON then withdrew his motion, and the grant passed.

"It is but justice here to state that immediately after the close of the debate, Mr. Tilley telegraphed to St. John, and enquired how many rooms in the Asylum are occupied by Dr. Waddell and family, and received for answer "five."—*Reporter.*

The Chronicle.

SAINT JOHN, APRIL 11, 1851.

LEGAL INCONSISTENCIES.—It will be remembered by many of our readers, that much *time, attention, consultation*, and *advice*, were recently brought into requisition for the production of an Act to amend the City's Charter, and so erudite and elaborate were considered the labors of the producers of that Herculean task, that many there were of the Civic board, who aimed at the immortal fame it was supposed to confer on the illustrious framers of its patriotic and glowing page. Something like two years did those Civic Solomons sit in thoughtful conclave on the *mighty modern miracle* about to be ushered into existence, and to astonish an expectant and a wondering world. When, lo! in 1849, sided by the Typographic art of D. A. Cameron, "*Corporation Printer*," the mountain ceased its labors, and, (need we tell the rest!) the mouse was born. For truly such an *Act* was never yet *enacted*, since *Acts* were *Acts*. The 3rd section of this never-to-be-forgotten Act presents one of the deepest enigmas ever propounded by Sphinx; and yet, strange to say, such is its ductility, that like a ball of Indian Rubber, you may press it into a thousand shapes, and each one prove *equally graceful*.

The first provision of this renowned section is, that a Mayor shall be elected out of the Body Corporate on the first Tuesday in May, and in the event of his refusing to serve, or "by reason of dying:" (query, "*Who dying?*") another fit person shall be elected out of said body to fill the vacancy, but that no person "shall be *capable* (query, *eligible*) of being *appointed* (query, *elected*) Mayor, unless he be so qualified in every respect as would *entitle* him *then* to be elected ALDERMAN of said City;" (mark, when there was no vacancy, and consequently no human being could be *then entitled*.) Again, the law provides that *any member* of the Board is eligible to be elected Mayor, a Councillor as well as an Alderman; yet a man may be qualified for the one, and not for the other; who will solve this problem? It is further provided that the out-going Mayor *shall* fill the office at the Civic Board previously occupied by the Mayor elect, and that in the event of his wishing to retire from the Corporation, he shall give two days notice in writing to that effect; and yet in another part of said section it provides that at the *first* election of Mayor, the out-going Mayor *shall not* step into the vacancy caused by the election of the Mayor. This portion of the Act is not unlike Cape Cod Light, a revolver, "now you see it, now you don't." Two other misnomers *only*, and we have done. No stated time is given for the election of a Member of the Board; to fill the vacancy caused by the election of the Mayor; it may be a day, or it may be a year. Another glaring defect, it appears to us, characterizes the whole scheme of the Mayor being elected, which is, that should the Governor be so inclined, he may reject the person elected as often as he feels disposed, until he gets precisely the man that will fit him and his advisers, when he can, by constant refusal to approve of another, keep his favorite in office during pleasure, and yet act in strict accordance with the *great*, the *mighty*, and the well *digested* "*Amended Charter*." Bah!

HALIFAX AND QUEBEC RAILROAD.—It gives us much pleasure to notice the action taken by the House of Assembly on the Despatches of Earl Grey, relative to the Quebec Rail Road. We are twice pleased—first, that the proposition of His Lordship has been respectfully but firmly rejected, and secondly, that the House in a proper spirit and with a true sense of honor, have not repudiated their original offer, of a very handsome grant of land and a guarantee in money, fully equal to the ability of this poor province. The idea of two such undertakings, as the contemplated Rail Roads at the same time, would in our limited state of finances be truly preposterous. The only thing that we can see at all feasible as a public undertaking in addition to the North American Rail Road, is the elongation of the same, done either in wood or iron, from the Bend to Shediac, and this we would strongly urge both on the People and their Representatives, to lose no time in accomplishing, as we feel fully assured, that a rush of business, beyond the calculation of the most sanguine, would burst upon us from that quarter, and prove equally beneficial to both sections of the country. Such confidence do we feel in the success that would attend such an improvement, that had we the means, we should feel no hesitation in embarking in such a glorious undertaking. Why do not the parties interested in that quarter lend their energies to so promising a scheme, and rescue that delightful portion of this township provided from its present state of security.

CITY NUISANCES.—Under this head the most prominent item is the Inspection of Flour. Some 16 or 17 years since, a Law for the Inspection of Flour was established by our Corporate Body, and gave mortal offence to all importers of that article. The law provided that flour should be inspected as to quality, and marked accordingly; and that every barrel of flour should weigh 196 [illegible] across the both ends of the barrel. This law was puzzled for a year or two, and very much disconcerted the importers, while the community was correspondingly gratified and served by the arrangement. On reference to the books of one of the Inspectors, it was found that on all his inspections for the two first years, the average amount of short weight was 20 lbs. per barrel, an aggregate loss to the community of some two or three thousand pounds per annum. Interest was then made with the Common Council to alter the law, by taking off those obnoxious cullers papers from the heads of the barrels, and substituting the marking of the barrel, thereby enabling any one so disposed to raise the hoops and take out any quantity he might think proper, and make all right again without being detected.—The consequence now is, that altho' the consumer pays the Inspector, and the Inspector of Inspectors, which is nothing more than a SINECURE, yet we are not sure either of quantity or quality. The thing as it now stands is a perfect piece of imposture, practised upon a suffering but patient people. We trust that some of our City representatives will be honest enough to take up this question at an early day, and as there is no kind of protection now afforded to the people, abrogate the law, and let the purchaser, as in days of yore, become his own inspector.—Another farce of the same description is enacted in the appointment of a Lime Inspector. It seldom happens that a barrel of Lime is ever Inspected by the man who receives the pay for inspecting it; yet the law stands good—the people pay the tax, and the work is left undone. Really if the people are to be saddled with the maintenance of such people, would it not be better at once to make provision for them out of the Poor Rates?—thereby putting the public charge in its proper shape. At a future time we shall refer again to this subject, and enter further into detail.

FREE POSTAGE.—As Members of the Newspaper Press, we feel that we owe a debt of gratitude to A. Barberie, Esq., for his untiring perseverance in breaking down that odious and unjust tax upon knowledge, *Newspaper Postage*, with which the good folks of our Province have been so long afflicted. We esteem it a boon, not only to the Printer but to the Province at large, which will be hailed by every one who wishes for the spread of knowledge with cordial greetings. We speak *feelingly*, when we state that in many instances proprietors of Newspapers have paid as much in the shape of postage as the whole of their subscriptions have amounted to. From a desire to spread the intelligence of the day, we frequently send papers to poor persons living in the interior, with little prospect or hope of remuneration; the loss in this instance is quite sufficient to the Printer, without his being saddled with a Provincial postage also.

☞A writer in a California paper states that the state of Society in San Francisco is horrible in the extreme, he likens it to a penal state, without law, every one doing that which seemeth good in his own eyes, that burnings, robberies, and murders are the order of the day, and that the better inclined portion of the people are determined, in the absence of the administration of Justice, to institute "*Lynch Law*." Several desperadoes have already stretched the hemp of "*Squire Lynch*," while other attempts to take culprits out of the hands of the authorities have been made, in order that the good people of California might do the needful, without the ceremony of a trial. Truly may it be said that "gold is the root of all evil."

THE SEASON.—Our River is nearly clear of ice, and great preparations are making for the Summers' Navigation. The weather has burst upon us with a perfect flood of light and heat; still our Streets which during winter were deeply buried up in snow, retain relics of winters severity. A few short days and we shall be in possession of a West India climate. Our transit from Winter to Summer is evanescent and magical.

POISONERS—We have recently heard complaints from several persons, that valuable dogs have been poisoned on the premises of their owners. These depredations invariably occur at night, and there are those who do not hesitate to name suspected parties. A friend of ours a short time since lost a favourite and valuable dog in this way, for which he would not have taken £10.—We would warn those nocturnal murderers that persons are on the watch for their detection.

A DISGRACEFUL SCENE.—Yesterday an unfortunate maniac, a woman, was drawn in the open waggon of George Stockford, Constable, through the Streets of the City, on her way to the Lunatic Asylum. The poor creature was sitting in the waggon, held by Stockford, with her head over the side of the vehicle, and striking against the wheel, uttering horrible yells, and followed by a crowd of idle people. We cannot but think much blame is to be attached to the authority who gave the order for her admission to the Asylum, in permitting her to be so conveyed. Madness itself in a fellow being is sufficiently appaling, without making such indecent exposures of the frailties of poor human nature. We trust on any similar necessity in future, that the decency of a covered vehicle will be obtained.

LAUNCH.—On Wednesday last, a remarkably fine Ship called the *Gibson Craig* was launched in Carleton, from the Ship-Yard of Messrs. Stockhouse & McLauchlan—the owners. The G. C. is of the burthen of 1036 tons, Carpenter's Measurement. She is built of hackmatack, pine, and American white oak, and is thoroughly copper-fastened, and exhibits an admirable model, [illegible] of sound mechanical skill and design, which reflects great credit upon her owners, and Mr. Thomas McLeod, the talented Shipwright who built [illegible] The G. C. will shortly proceed to Liverpool.

"MR. GRAY'S EXPLANATION.—It would appear that no blame whatever is to be [illegible] H. Gray, Esq., for the loss of the [illegible] Wharf at Reed's Point. The [illegible] to be in this, that the House is [illegible] large sums for public works if they can [illegible] avoid it, and particularly for the City of St. John, where the greatest portion of the revenue of the Province is raised, but for which they [illegible] no especial favor.

MR. BOND'S EXEMPTION BILL.—We are pleased to find that our friend on the Carleton side has met at the hands of the Legislative Council even handed justice, by being exempt from the law providing that no saw-dust should be thrown into the Harbor, his case was a peculiarly hard one, and was so viewed by that body, who voted for it, with the exception only of one individual.

GARRETSON LECTURE.—[illegible] lectured last evening on the [illegible] is always the date with the [illegible] lectures, a rich treat was [illegible] a variety of pleasing [illegible] successfully performed. [illegible] hear the Doctor remark at [illegible] upon the quiet and appropr[illegible] was manifested by his hea[illegible] and well deserved. Doct[illegible] every closes the lecture [illegible]

PAY OF THE LEGISL[illegible] Bill for this purpose is now [illegible] a majority of that body [illegible] the Legislative Council [illegible] for making their body [illegible] popular branch, who, [illegible] appear determined that [illegible] for their services. Right.

Lower Cove New Church[illegible] ing the Rev. Mr. Armstrong [illegible] in Trinity Church, prepa[illegible] of a subscription for liquid[illegible] against that beautiful [illegible] the whole amount does not [illegible] trifle to the Church going [illegible] We sincerely trust their [illegible] be such as to meet with[illegible] required.

Steamer Maid of Erin.—[illegible] vertisement that this [illegible] completely fitted up for the [illegible] ner, is again on the route [illegible] Portland, connecting with [illegible] She is a substantial and [illegible] in command of our esteem[illegible] friend Captain BEZELEY [illegible] for a successful season.

☞The steamer Admi[illegible] morning at 4 o'clock, and [illegible] large number of passengers [illegible] reference to advertisement [illegible] Thursday's until further no[illegible]

We are indebted to Co[illegible] Express for copious files of [illegible]

MR. WHITNEY'S EXH[illegible] much pleasure to find that [illegible] are again en route, and tru[illegible] public patronage, he will [illegible] up the misfortunes with [illegible] been visited. An advertise[illegible] will show the various de[illegible] the Season.

☞We have received a [illegible] Visitor," an illustrated m[illegible] lished in New-York, by M[illegible] 6d. per annum. It will no[illegible] and obtain a large circulati[illegible] Sears, of this city, are the [illegible]

Portland Police O[illegible]

Alexander McDermott [illegible] before Jacob Allen, Esq., [illegible] fined in the sum of 40s. for [illegible] use of most gross and abu[illegible] Angus McAfee.

Andrew Barns, for an [illegible] Wilson of 97th Regt., by [illegible] struck him, also interfering [illegible] and being drunk and disord[illegible]

William Miles, for drunk[illegible] were paid.

DEANERY MEETING.—[illegible] of the Deanery of St. Joh[illegible] Church, on Tuesday the 8[illegible] Rev. I. W. D. Gray, D.D., [illegible] the Rev. F. Coster, the Re[illegible] Rev. A. Stewart, and the Re[illegible] Sermon, a very impressive [illegible] 6, upon the duties of the [illegible] preached by the Rev. J. A[illegible] Sacrament was afterwards [illegible] number of the Parishioners [illegible] meetings, tightly improve[illegible] might, in no small degree, [illegible] cation and comfort both of [illegible] Church Witness.

☞It appears by the r[illegible] of Schools, for the several [illegible] submitted at the late Gen[illegible] number of children recei[illegible] Parish Schools, are 1465 bo[illegible] 2321, viz.:—In St. John [illegible] Lancaster, 367; St. Martin[illegible] 404,—and that there were [illegible] ing the Provincial allowan[illegible]

PROVINCIAL APPOINTM[